

**REMARKS**

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated March 12, 2007 in which the Examiner objected to the Abstract, rejected claims 14-25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, rejected claims 15 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), rejected claims 17, 20, 22-23 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103, stated that claims 14 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and objected to claims 18-20 and 26 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant respectfully points out that the references cited, *Nagata et al.*, *Eckersley et al.* and *Kitabayashi et al.*, were not cited on the PTO-892.

As indicated above, the Abstract has been amended. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraws the objection to the Abstract.

As indicated above, claims 14-25 have been amended in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 14-25 under 35 U.S.C. §112.

As indicated above, claim 15 has been amended in order to be dependent upon claim 14. Claims 19, 21 and 24-25 have similarly been amended to depend from claim 14. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 15 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), withdraws the rejection to claims 17, 20, 22-23 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103 and withdraws the objection to claims 18-20 and 26 as being dependent upon allowable claims, but would be

allowable if rewritten in independent form. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 14-26 are in condition for allowance.

Thus it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner find that the application is not now in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner enters this Amendment for purposes of appeal.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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